

WEENYMANIA!



The star

The star-spangled star ... David at last night's performance wearing a body-hugging black catsuit patched with silver stars.



The fan

One bird's eye view. This fan perched on the 40ft.-high roof of David's hotel and announced she was staying put until he appeared.



The riot A policeman struggles to keep fans from their idol.

Girls rush stage at David Cassidy's first British show

By MIRROR REPORTER

WEEENYMANIA ran riot at David Cassidy's first British concert last night. Girl fans were thrown to the floor and dozens of seats were smashed as rows of screaming weenyboppers were pushed back from the stage.

Security men, surrounding the stage at Belle Vue, Manchester, fought back a crush of fans who kept surging forward to the bandstand. Dozens of girls were treated for shock or hysteria. Two were taken to hospital—one with a bruised shoulder and another with leg abrasions.

Three girls got on to the stage and briefly embraced the 22-year-old baby-faced singer before they were dragged away.

But others were not so lucky.

Scream

Some were pushed back so hard that they were knocked off their feet.

One girl was rescued from under a pile of falling bodies.

Cassidy provided 48 minutes of pandemonium with an act that squeezed out the last scream.

Halfway through, compare David Hamilton appealed to the audience of nearly 6,000:

"Girls, play fair. Sit down or move back, or someone will get hurt."

Everyone sat down. But in seconds they were up again.

The stage was littered with panties, handkerchiefs and bags of sweets from the fans.

Afterwards Cassidy said: "It really scared me all that trouble. The audience were wild."

Earlier Cassidy was besieged in his Manchester hotel.

While weenyboppers went wild for a glimpse of him, one of them put their devotion into words.

"We'd die for him."



declared 15-year-old Margaret Schofield, from Hale, Cheshire.

Margaret led a group of five admirers who jumped into the hotel swimming pool.

Then, suitably soaked, they went to the hotel entrance and pleaded to be let in to dry themselves.

The impassive doorman was sorry but declined their request. And the girls were left to wander around the grounds, shivering.

Meanwhile 14-year-old Jane Graham from Sale, Cheshire, climbed on to the hotel roof. And 40ft. above ground, with her legs dangling, she announced that she would not come down until David came out.

Eventually, she relented. "The porters told me I'd be taken away by the police," she said.

Other girls tried other ploys. But none succeeded—except 19-year-old Laura Cobain, who had given up her job as a waitress in Aberdeen to travel south and wait three days for her hero.

Laura got into the hotel and hid under a table. Then, after she was thrown out, the Cassidy team heard about her journey and her wait. And they invited her in.

Kiss

She presented David with a doll she had made for him. The words "You Make My Day More Beautiful" were embroidered on it.

They had to suffice because Laura was too tongue-tied to say anything to the star.

He gave her a kiss on the cheek. And, later, she managed to say: "I was absolutely thrilled."

Laura's dream..

It was all too much for 19-year-old Laura Cobain. She gave up her job as a waitress in Aberdeen to see David. But when they met yesterday and he kissed her on the cheek, she was too tongue-tied to say anything.



A wailing screamybopper is dragged away from David by a security man after she got on the stage at Belle Vue, Manchester, last night.

As Keith Waite sees it



"... and by the time we got from Manchester to Luton he'd gone to Manchester ..."